

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 010329

EXDIS, TOSEC 152

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, MASS, IS

SUBJECT: ISRAEL'S FY 1975 ASSISTANCE REQUEST

REF: TEL AVIV 259

1. ISRAELI EMBASSY HAS NOT RPT NOT YET BEEN FORMALLY NOTIFIED RE PRESIDENT'S DECISION DEFER DECISION AT THIS TIME ON SPECIFIC AMOUNTS SA AND FMS FOR ISRAEL IN FY 75. WE INTEND CONVEY DECISION AND RATIONALE TO GOI SHORTLY. WISH NOTE OUR OWN INTERNAL CONSIDERATION THIS MATTER NOT YET COMPLETED.

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2. DECISION NOT TO INCLUDE REQUEST FOR ISRAEL IN FY 75 BUDGET WAS RECOMMENDED BY SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT. MOREOVER, ISRAEL IS UNABLE SO FAR PROVIDE US WITH FIRM DATA BASE THEIR REQUIREMENTS FOR FY 75. RECOGNIZE THERE POSSIBILITY ISRAELI MISUNDERSTANDING OUR MOTIVES. BUT BELIEVE RECENT RAPID ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON DOLS. 2.2
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BILLION SHOULD LEAVE NO DOUBT FIRMNESS OUR SUPPORT. WE DO NOT BELIEVE GOI WILL EXPECT US TO PUT FORWARD PRECISE ASSISTANCE FIGURES FOR FY 75 WHEN IT HAS NOT YET GIVEN US PRECISE IDEA WHAT ITS NEEDS ARE. ECON MINISTER SHER HAS TOLD US HE REALIZES DECISION ON FY 75 ASSISTANCE MAY BE DELAYED UNTIL AFTER PRESIDENT'S BUDGET MESSAGE (STATE 3184, PARA 8).

3. EMBASSY CORRECT IN SAYING WE DEPARTING FROM PATTERN OF PAST YEARS IN NOT PUTTING ASSISTANCE FIGURES IN BUDGET. THIS IS ESSENTIALLY BECAUSE, AS RESULT WAR, SITUATION RADICALLY DIFFERENT THAN IN PRIOR YEARS. WE EXPECT THAT REASONS FOR DEFERRAL WILL BE EXPLAINED IN PRESIDENT'S BUDGET MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

4. REFTTEL RECOMMENDATIONS PARAS 7 AND 8 WILL BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. RUSH

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